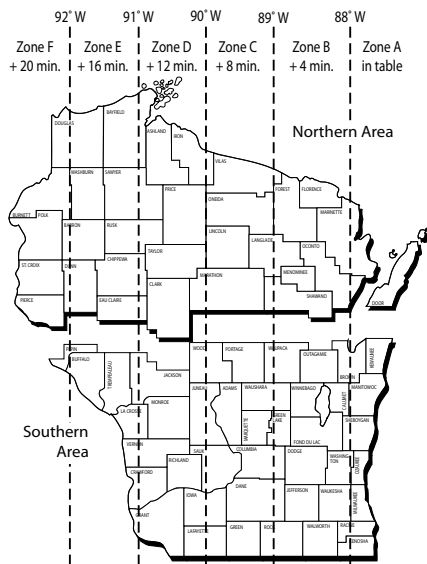


## Hunting Hours

To determine the opening (A.M.) and closing (P.M.) times for all zones, add the minutes shown (see map) to the times listed in the table below.



	Southern Area Hours		Northern Area Hours	
September 2011	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
7	5:51	7:36	5:48	7:37
8	5:52	7:34	5:50	7:35
9	5:53	7:33	5:51	7:33
10	5:54	7:31	5:52	7:31
11	5:55	7:29	5:53	7:29
12	5:57	7:27	5:54	7:28
13	5:58	7:25	5:56	7:26
14	5:59	7:23	5:57	7:24
15	6:00	7:22	5:58	7:22
16	6:01	7:20	5:59	7:20
17	6:02	7:18	6:01	7:18
18	6:03	7:16	6:02	7:16
19	6:04	7:14	6:03	7:14
20	6:06	7:12	6:04	7:12
21	6:07	7:11	6:06	7:10
22	6:08	7:09	6:07	7:08
23	6:09	7:07	6:08	7:06
24	6:10	7:05	6:09	7:04
25	6:11	7:03	6:11	7:02
26	6:12	7:01	6:12	7:00
27	6:14	7:00	6:13	6:58
28	6:15	6:58	6:14	6:57
29	6:16	6:56	6:16	6:55
30	6:17	6:54	6:17	6:53
October 2011	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1	6:18	6:52	6:18	6:51
2	6:19	6:51	6:19	6:49
3	6:21	6:49	6:21	6:47
4	6:22	6:47	6:22	6:45
5	6:23	6:45	6:23	6:43
6	6:24	6:43	6:24	6:41
7	6:25	6:42	6:26	6:39
8	6:26	6:40	6:27	6:38
9	6:28	6:38	6:28	6:36
10	6:29	6:36	6:30	6:34
11	6:30	6:35	6:31	6:32

## Questions?

Contact the DNR Call Center toll-free at 1-888-WDNR INFO (1-888-936-7463) • local 608-266-2621. Staff are available 7 days a week from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Txhais lus Hmoob thoj hu tus xovtooj 1-888-936-7463. Muaj txhais lus Hmoob txhua hnub, Monday txog Sunday, 7:00 sawv ntxov 10:00 tsaun ntuj.

El personal también está disponible para asistir a clientes de habla hispana en nuestro número gratuito. El personal que habla español está disponible 7 días a la semana a partir de la 7:00 de mañana hasta 10:00 p.m.

Customer service representatives at service centers are also available to assist you but have limited hours and days open for counter services. See below.

**Office hours:** 9:00 am - 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Open	Closed
Antigo	■	□	□	■	□	■	□
Ashland	■	□	□	□	□	■	□
Baldwin	□	□	■	□	■	□	■
Black River Falls	□	■	■	■	■	□	■
Cumberland	■	□	□	□	□	■	□
Dodgeville	□	■	□	□	□	□	■
Eau Claire	□	■	□	■	■	□	■
Fitchburg	□	■	□	■	■	□	■
Green Bay	□	■	□	■	■	□	■
Hayward	□	□	■	□	□	□	■
Horicon	□	■	□	□	□	□	■
Janesville	■	□	■	□	□	■	□
La Crosse	■	□	□	□	□	■	□
Ladysmith	□	■	□	□	□	□	■
Milwaukee	□	■	□	■	■	□	■
Oshkosh	□	□	■	□	■	□	■
Park Falls	□	□	■	□	□	□	■
Peshtigo	□	□	■	□	□	□	■
Plymouth	□	■	□	■	□	□	■
Poynette	□	■	□	□	□	□	■
Rhineland	■	□	□	■	□	■	□
Spooner	□	■	□	■	■	□	■
Sturgeon Bay	■	□	□	□	□	■	□
Sturtevant	□	■	□	■	□	□	■
Superior	□	■	■	■	■	□	■
Waukesha	■	□	■	□	□	■	□
Wausau	□	□	■	□	■	□	■
Wautoma	■	□	□	□	□	■	□
Wisconsin Rapids	□	■	□	□	□	□	■
Woodruff	□	■	□	□	■	□	■

# 2011 Wisconsin BEAR HUNTING Regulations



Photo by Emery Orlikowski

Luke Elliott, 10, tagged his first bear, weighing 218 pounds dressed, with his grandfather's 30-30 Winchester and a Class A Bear License that had been transferred to him by Emery Orlikowski. Luke was mentored by his father, Tom, during the hunt.

## Season Dates

**Zone A, Zone B and Zone D:**  
**September 7 – September 13**

• with aid of dogs only

**September 14 – October 4**

- with aid of dogs
- with aid of bait
- with other legal methods

**October 5 – October 11**

- with aid of bait
- with other legal methods **not** utilizing dogs

**Zone C:**

**September 7 – October 11**

- With aid of bait
- with other legal methods **not** utilizing dogs

**Visit the DNR website at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)**



Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707  
1-888-936-7463  
**PUB-WM-197 2011**

### Greetings 2011 Bear Hunters,

Black bears continue to be abundant in northern Wisconsin and the population continues to slowly shift further into southwestern and southern Wisconsin. The 2010 bear season offered 8,910 harvest permits, 22% more than in 2009, and preliminary results indicate hunters harvested just over 5,000 bears. The statewide hunter success rate in 2010 was 56%, up slightly from the 55% success rate in 2009. In 2010, Zone D had the highest success rate of all zones, at 74%. Zone B had the next highest success rate at 68%, followed by Zone A (59%), and Zone C (30%).

Wisconsin provides a unique black bear hunting opportunity with some of the largest bear and highest success rates in the country. More than 97,000 people applied for a 2010 bear season harvest permit or preference point, an increase of 2% over 2009. In 2010, everyone with 5 points or more who asked to be in the drawing received a permit in Zone C, everyone with 8 points or more drew a permit in Zone A, everyone with 9 points or more drew in Zone D, while everyone with 10 points or more drew a permit for Zone B. The 2011 bear drawing results are not available prior to the printing of these regulations. Current and historical drawing results are available at the WDNR Bear Hunting internet page at [www.dnr.gov](http://www.dnr.gov).

In 2011, the Department with the much-appreciated assistance of the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association, began a two-year study to estimate Wisconsin's black bear population size. In spring 2011, volunteers and DNR staff placed peanut butter baits containing tetracycline in primary bear range. The tetracycline is harmless and is deposited in the bones of bears that consume the bait. Collection of rib tissue allows us to evaluate the proportion of bears which consumed tetracycline baits. Using a well established wildlife research method known as capture-recapture, we use this information to estimate the state-wide bear population. All successful bear hunters will be asked to submit a small 2 inch piece of rib from the bear they harvest to identify bears that ingested the tetracycline bait. The study's success and the accuracy of the population estimate depend on the samples submitted by successful bear hunters. In addition, hunters should pull an upper pre-molar tooth for bear aging analysis. We will contact successful hunters by mail with the age of your bear when we receive the age results from the lab. Instructions and photos showing how to collect rib and tooth samples are available at WDNR Bear Hunting internet page. Thank you for helping ensure the success of the population study and bear management in Wisconsin.

Best wishes for a safe and successful hunt in 2011.

Linda Olver  
Assistant Bear Biologist

### Support Ethical Responsible Hunting Report Violations

CALL 1-800-TIP-WDNR (1-800-847-9367)  
or #367 from your cell phone  
(free for U.S. Cellular customers)

Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential  
(This is NOT an information number)

To email a report of violation not in progress:  
[le.hotline@wisconsin.gov](mailto:le.hotline@wisconsin.gov)

### Blaze Orange

Bear hunters **must** wear blaze orange during the two-day youth gun deer hunt that takes place on October 8 and 9 in 2011.

### Licenses and Permits

- To be considered for a Class A Bear License in 2012, an applicant must pay a \$3.00 application fee and provide zone preference to the license agent at the time of purchase. The deadline is 12 midnight, **December 10, 2011. If a zone is selected at the time of purchase, and you are selected in the drawing, your preference points will be reset to zero, even if you do not purchase a Class A License.** Unsuccessful applicants will automatically receive a preference point.
- Applicants can submit their bear applications online at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov). There is an additional \$1 convenience fee for submitting online.
- Applicants who fail to apply for either a preference point or a license at least once during any 3 consecutive years will lose all previously accumulated preference points.
- Applicants who will not be bear hunting in 2012 but would like a preference point should inform the license agent at the time of purchase. A \$3.00 application fee must be received by 12 midnight, **December 10, 2011.**
- Applicants for a 2012 license or preference point must be at least 10 years old and eligible to purchase a license authorizing hunting by Sept. 5, 2012.
- A nonresident may purchase a Class A or B bear license at the resident fee if they are a current active duty member of the US Armed Forces and were a Wisconsin resident when they joined.
- Those hunters who have been drawn for a 2011 Class A Bear License can purchase their license at any time beginning on March 9, 2011. However, licenses purchased after September 6, 2011 are not valid until three days after the purchase (Example: A license purchased on a Monday is valid on Thursday).

### Class A License

**(Residents: \$49, Non-Residents: \$251)**

A Class A Bear License **is required** to shoot and tag a bear. It also includes all the privileges of a Class B Bear License.

### Class B License

**(Residents: \$14, Non-residents: \$110)**

A Class B license **does not allow** the license holder to shoot or tag a bear. A Class B license allows the holder to assist a Class A bear license holder in hunting activities that include handling dogs, placing bait and locating bear. You do not need to be with a Class A license holder to place bait. The Class B license is required of all members of a dog training group (12 years and older) if they are handling dogs, locating bear, or assisting the dog owners in locating bear, monitoring radios, trailing, placing bait, or tracking. **Persons under the age of 12 can engage in any of these activities without purchasing a license.**

### Bear Hunting Back Tag

A bear hunting back tag is issued to all Class A and Class B bear licensees. Back tags must be worn while hunting bear, training dogs, or assisting the holder of a Class A Bear License. The back tag must be attached to the center of the back of the outermost garment where it can be clearly seen. Back tags do not have to be worn if only placing bait.

### License Issuance

The number of bear licenses available per management zone is based upon previous hunter success rates and current bear population estimates.

Hunters are selected using a cumulative preference point system. Applicants receive a preference point every year they apply and are not drawn for a Class A permit. Applicants with the greatest number of preference points within each zone are chosen first to receive a Class A license. Hunters who apply as a group will enter the drawing with preference point total of group member with lowest preference. **Hunters must apply at least once every three years to retain their preference points.**

### Class A Bear License Transfer

An adult may apply to transfer their Class A Bear License to a youth ages 10–17, provided the transfer application is received at least 15 days prior to the start of the bear season. The youth receiving the license will retain his or her accumulated preference points. A youth may only be the recipient of a transferred license once. Bear license transfer applications can be found at all DNR Service Centers or online at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov).

Preference points or approvals can be transferred to a minor from a customer who is deceased using form 9400-592.

The DNR will defer the use of a Class A Bear License approval for members of the Armed Forces or National Guard who are on active duty and unable to hunt. Contact a local DNR Service Center for more information.

### Hunting Mentorship Program

Under the hunting mentorship program, anyone age 10 or older may obtain a Class A hunting license without the need to first complete hunter education certification. Individuals utilizing this program are required to hunt within arms reach of a mentor and may only possess one firearm or bow between the mentored hunter and the mentor. Refer to the DNR website at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) for more information.

### Bear Hunting Management Zones

Hunters may only hunt in the zone indicated on their license.

### Finding Public Land Open to Hunting

The DNR website provides detailed maps showing public lands in your area. Go to [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and click on the Maps link under the Favorites section. On this page click on the DNR Managed Lands link.

## Firearm and Archery Restrictions

### It is illegal to:

- Hunt bear with **any** rimfire rifle; air rifle; any center-fire rifle less than .22 caliber, .410 shotgun or handgun loaded with .410 shotgun ammunition, fully automatic firearm, or with ammunition loaded with non-expanding type bullets.
- Use handguns that are not muzzleloading handguns, unless they are loaded with centerfire cartridges of .22 caliber or larger. These handguns must have a minimum barrel length of 5½ inches measured from the muzzle to the firing pin with the action closed.
- Use a muzzleloading handgun unless it is at least .44 caliber with a minimum barrel length of 7 inches measured from muzzle to breech and fires a single projectile weighing not less than 138 grains.
- Use a muzzleloader, unless it is a smoothbore muzzleloading firearm of .45 caliber or larger, or a rifled muzzleloading firearm of .40 caliber or larger.
- Hunt bear with a bow having a pull of less than 30 pounds, or to use arrows which have metal broadhead blades less than seven-eighths of an inch wide.
- Possess while hunting any poisoned, drugged, or explosive tipped arrow.
- Hunt bear with or while in possession of any crossbow (except for those who hold one of the following permits for disabled hunters: crossbow permit, Class A, Class B crossbow, or Class C disabled permit. Residents and non-residents age 65 and older may also use crossbows).

**Note:** Legal crossbows shall have a minimum draw of 100 pounds, a workable safety, and use at least 14-inch long bolts or arrows equipped with broadheads. Compound bows equipped with a drawlock mechanism that is capable of holding the bow at full draw are considered crossbows. These are exempt from the 100 pound requirement but must meet the 30 pound minimum.

- Possess, place or transport, in or on any moving or stationary vehicle, any firearm, bow or crossbow, unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case, and the bow or crossbow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.

## Other Restrictions

### It is illegal to:

- Shoot or molest any bear in a den, hunt bear in any dump or sanitary landfill, or kill a cub or any adult bear accompanied by a cub or cubs. (**An adult bear is defined as a bear 42 inches or greater in length, as measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail.** Hunters concerned with distinguishing a cub from an adult bear should consider laying a 42 inch log next to their bait to assist in determining the size of a bear.) *If you're not sure, don't shoot!*

## Other Restrictions continued...

- Possess a bear carcass unless lawfully tagged.
- Possess, loan, or borrow another's license, permit, or tag.
- Sell, buy, trade or barter bear hides unless the claws, head and teeth are attached. Bear claws and teeth may not be sold, purchased, traded or bartered when separated from the hide. The sale of other bear parts is also prohibited.

## Road Hunting

### It is illegal to:

- Hunt within 50 feet of the roadway's center.
- Discharge a firearm, or shoot an arrow from a bow or a bolt from a crossbow from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the roadway's center. This prohibition applies to all public roads which are either paved or indicated on a current Department of Transportation county highway map.

**Note:** *Class A and certain Class B disabled permit holders are exempt from certain portions of this requirement when hunting from a stationary vehicle. Contact your local DNR office for more information.*

## Baiting

1. Bait may be placed and used for the purpose of hunting bear or training bear dogs **statewide**, except that **it is illegal for any person** to place, use, or hunt over bait placed for bears:
  - Beginning the day after the bear season closes and continuing through the following April 14th.
  - In excess of **10 gallons** of bait at any site.
  - That is **not** totally enclosed in a hollow log, a hole in the ground or stump which is capped with logs, rocks or other naturally occurring and unprocessed substances which **prevents deer from accessing the material**. Liquid scent used for hunting bear or training bear dogs does not need to be enclosed, but is part of the 10 gallon limit.
  - Unless, when the bait site is checked or re-baited, all bait that has been uncovered is again enclosed and made **inaccessible to deer**.
2. Additionally, **no person may** place, use or hunt over bait or scent that:
  - Contains any animal part or animal by-product. Animal part or by-product includes, but is not limited to, honey, bones, fish, meat, solid animal fat, bacon grease, animal carcass or parts of animal carcasses, but does not include liquid scents or cheese.
  - **Note:** Attracting bears by the methods commonly referred to as "honey burns" or "bacon burns" is not legal.
  - Contains or is contained within metal, paper, plastic, glass, wood or other similar processed materials. This does not apply to bait placed in hollow logs or stumps or to scent materials.
  - Is contained in or deposited by a feeder that is designed to deposit or replenish bait automatically, mechanically, or by gravity.

## Baiting rules continued...

- Is located within 50 yards of any trail, road or campsite used by the public, or within 100 yards from a roadway having a posted limit of 45 miles per hour or more.
- 3. **No person may hunt over** bait material for bear without possessing a valid unused Class A Bear License and carcass tag.
- 4. **No person may place** bait material for bear hunting without possessing a valid Class A or Class B Bear License, unless under 12 years of age.

## Tagging and Registration

- Immediately upon killing and before field dressing or moving the bear, you must validate the carcass tag by slitting the marks indicated on the tag, and attach it to the bear.
- A bear may be divided into not more than five parts, not including the hide, only to facilitate removal from the field. The head and neck shall remain attached to one of the other parts of the animal, not including the hide. A person who divides the bear prior to registration:
  - may not allow the bear to be stored or transported with any other bear that has been divided prior to registration.
  - may not divide any bear in a manner that does not keep one part of the bear intact to allow it to be measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail, to determine it was an adult bear of 42 inches or greater.
  - must remove all parts from the field except the entrails and exhibit all parts at the time of registration.
- Each bear must be registered within the county (or adjoining county) and within the black bear management zone in which the bear was killed no later than 5:00 P.M. on the day after the kill and before the carcass is removed from the county and bear management zone of kill. Registration stations adjacent to a highway forming the boundary of the zone are also acceptable. For a list of registration stations, look on the DNR website at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov).
- The person who tags the bear must keep the carcass tag and registration tag with the butchered meat until it is consumed.

## Transport

### It is illegal to:

- Transport another person's unregistered bear unless accompanied by the person who was issued the Class A bear carcass tag. Once registered, anyone may transport the animal.
- **Note:** Residents and nonresidents may transport legally possessed bear out of state provided it is registered according to the procedures outlined under "Tagging and Registration."

## Baiting rules continued...

5. **No person may** hunt or train dogs over a bait site that is in violation of these regulations, unless the area is completely free of bait material at least 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, pursuing animals or dog training.

**Note:** You may hunt over material deposited by natural vegetation or found solely as a result of normal agricultural practices. Removal of unlawfully placed bait or feed material does not preclude the issuance of a citation for the original placement of the unlawful baiting or feeding material.

## Tooth and Rib Sample

Each year, we ask successful bear hunters to extract and submit **one upper pre-molar tooth** from the bear they harvest. The collection of teeth is a very important part of our bear monitoring program. We will notify the hunter of the age of their bear shortly after we receive the age results.

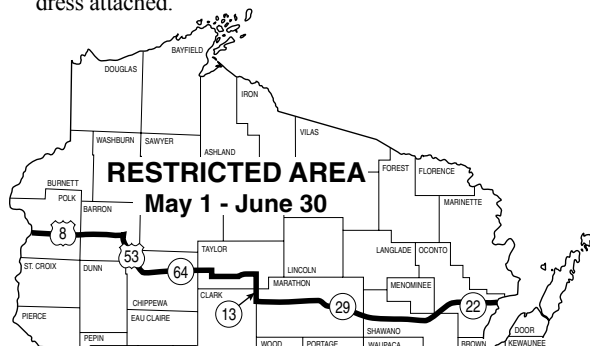
Beginning in 2011, the department is conducting a bear population study and all successful bear hunters are asked to provide a **2" long piece of bear rib** at the time they register their bear. The rib sample should be cut near the backbone. Do not collect the rib sample near the breastbone, as this part is not useable for this study. Be sure to remove all soft tissue from the bone to prevent the sample from rotting and place in the plastic sample bag provided.

Instructions on tooth and rib sample collection are also available at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov).

## Dog Training and Use

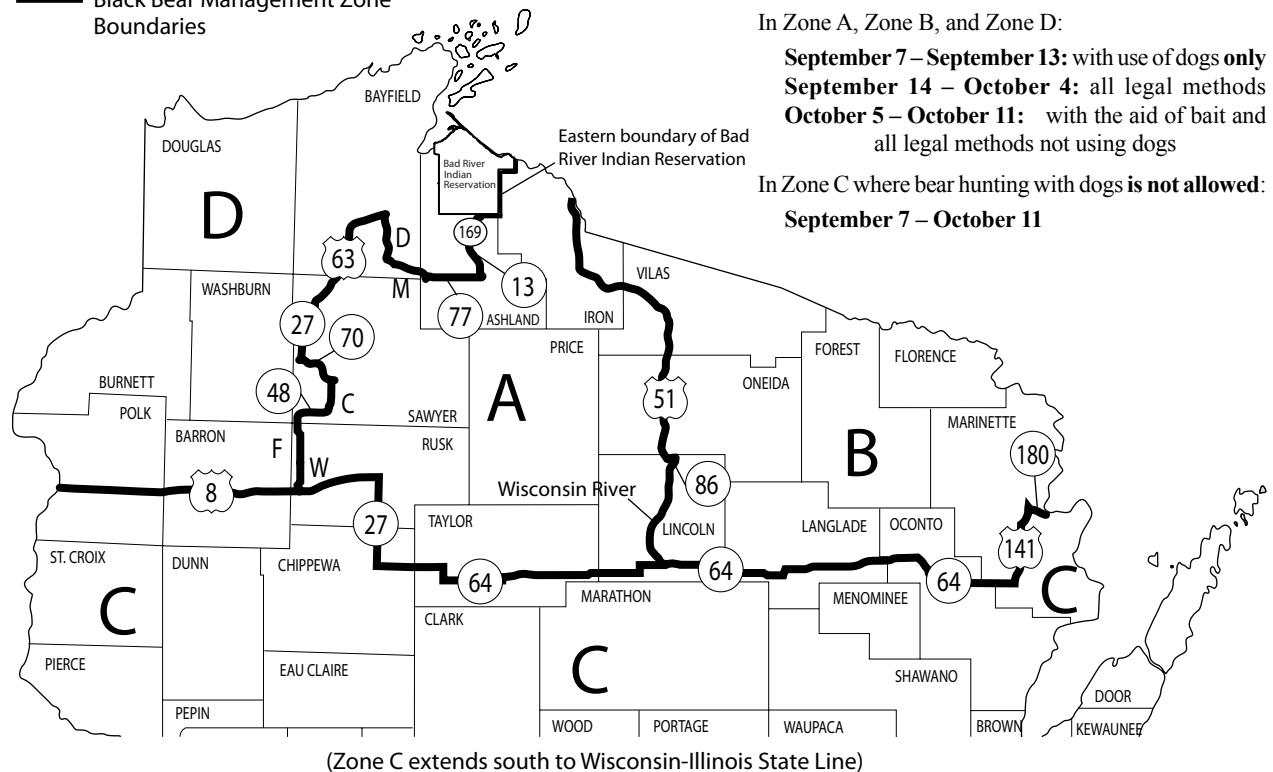
**It is illegal to:**

- Hunt bear with dogs in Zone C.
- Train dogs by pursuing bear except from **July 1 through August 31**. Bear dog training is not permitted during the bear hunting season.
- Hunt or train dogs unless one person in the group has on their person rabies tags and dog license tags for each dog.
- Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with a dog that is not tattooed, or that isn't wearing a collar with the owner's name and address attached.



## Bear Hunting Management Zones Map

— Black Bear Management Zone Boundaries



## 2011 Season Dates

In Zone A, Zone B, and Zone D:

**September 7 – September 13:** with use of dogs **only**

**September 14 – October 4:** all legal methods

**October 5 – October 11:** with the aid of bait and all legal methods not using dogs

In Zone C where bear hunting with dogs is **not allowed**:

**September 7 – October 11**

## Dog training and use rules continued...

- Allow the dogs to kill any wild animal.
  - Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with more than 6 dogs in a single pack, regardless of the number of bear hunters or the dog's ownership.
- Note:** Dogs that fall out of the chase may be replaced, but no more than 6 dogs may be used to pursue bear regardless of the number of bear hunters and regardless of the dog ownership.
- Hunt or pursue any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of any dog, from May 1 to June 30, north of the highways shown on the map at left, **except** for approved dog trials and training on free-roaming rabbits or raccoons under a hound dog trial or training license.

**Firewood Rules:** Firewood brought onto state managed lands must not come from more than 25 miles away. Details can be found at: [dnr.wi.gov/invasives/firewood/](http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/firewood/) or by phone at: 1-877-303-WOOD (9663).

The Department of Natural Resources is committed to serving people with disabilities. If you need this information in an alternative format, please call 608-266-8204.

## Lead in Game Meat

Game harvested with lead bullets have been shown to have tiny lead particles or fragments remaining in the processed meat. These are often too small to be seen and can disperse far from the wound channel. Although lead in game meat does not rival lead paint in older homes as a health risk for the public, the risk is not low enough to ignore.

For information on where to find copper bullets and non-toxic ammunition for hunting, visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/lead2.pdf>

This pamphlet is a summary of Wisconsin's bear hunting laws and regulations. For a complete set of laws and regulations, please refer to the Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Code of the Department of Natural Resources.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

